

**COMMISSION OFFICERS:**

Jean L. Rexford  
Chairperson

Adrienne Farrar Houël  
Vice Chairperson

Carrie Gallagher  
Secretary

Sandra Hassan  
Treasurer

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:**

Teresa C. Younger

**State of Connecticut**

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY**



**PERMANENT COMMISSION ON  
THE STATUS OF WOMEN**

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**COMMISSION MEMBERS:**

Yvonne R. Davis  
Barbara DeBaptiste  
Elizabeth Donohue  
Tanya Meck  
Cindy R. Slane  
Susan O. Storey  
Patricia E.M. Whitcombe  
Cecilia J. Woods

**LEGISLATIVE MEMBERS:**

Senator Andrew J. McDonald  
Senator John A. Kissel  
Representative Michael P. Lawlor  
Representative Arthur J. O'Neill

**HONORARY MEMBERS:**

Connie Dice  
Patricia Russo

**PCSW COMMISSION MEETING  
THURSDAY, MAY 3, 2007  
PERMANENT COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN  
LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM  
HARTFORD, CT**

Present: Commissioners Adrienne Farrar Houel,  
Carrie Gallagher, Sandra Hassan, Barbara DeBaptiste,  
Elizabeth Donohue, Tanya Meck, Susan O. Storey,  
Patricia E.M. Whitcombe and Cecilia J. Woods

Staff Present: Teresa Younger, Natasha Pierre, and Rosemary Lopez

Excused and/or Absent: Senator Andrew J. McDonald, Senator John A. Kissel,  
Representative Michael P. Lawlor,  
Representative Arthur J. O'Neill and  
Commissioners Jean L. Rexford and Cindy R. Slane

Vice Chairperson Adrienne Farrar Houel served as Chairperson in the absence of Commissioner Jean Rexford.

Vice Chairperson Houel called the meeting to order on Thursday, May 3, 2007 at 2:35 P.M.

Vice Chairperson Houel welcomed our newly appointed Commissioner Cecilia J. Woods also known as “Cee-Cee” who was appointed by the Senate President Pro Tempore to fill the term of former Commissioner Robin Sheppard.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE  
THURSDAY, APRIL 5, 2007 COMMISSION MEETING**

Commissioner Storey moved the approval of the minutes of the Thursday, April 5, 2007 Commission meeting. Commissioner Whitcombe seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

**GUEST SPEAKER  
JUDGE BEVERLY HODGSON  
SEXUAL HARASSMENT CONSULTANT-DOC UPDATE &  
APPROVAL OF RECOMMENDED NEXT STEPS**

Vice Chairperson apologized on behalf of Judge Hodgson for not being able to attend today's commission meeting, she did inform everyone that she will be present at the June commission meeting.

Teresa Younger, Executive Director reported that she has been working very closely with Judge Hodgson on steps post stipulated agreement and will continue to do so.

It was recommended and accepted that PCSW not send Judge Hodgson's quarterly report electronically because it contains sensitive information and could be easily accessed or shared electronically.

**REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Ms. Younger was happy to report that the Emergency Contraception bill was voted out of the house.

Ms. Younger reported that the OCHA hearing was held on May 2, and will rule after the EC bill has been signed. PCSW was granted limited intervener status (no cross examination). Some commissioners wanted to know what the grounds for limited intervener status were. Attorney Ruth Pulda represented PCSW at the hearing. Ms. Carissa Simpson and Ms. Younger testified on PCSW's behalf. They lost three testifiers due to the rescheduling.

Ms. Younger distributed information on the National Association of Commissions for Women (NACW) in case anyone is interested in becoming an affiliate member.

Ms. Younger reported that they are almost at the final stage of hiring a project/staff assistant; and are awaiting final approval from the Office of Legislative Management.

### **REPORT OF THE TREASURER**

Commissioner Sandra Hassan distributed the May budget report to the Commissioners for their information and review. The budget was accepted as presented and will be placed on file.

### **NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT**

#### **Action Item 05/07/03**

#### **Approval PCSW Slate of Officers**

Commissioner Meck, Chair of the Nominating Committee, distributed the report of the Nominating Committee, and presented the following slate of officers for consideration for office during the 2007-2008 year:

Chairperson	Jean L. Rexford
Vice Chair	Adrienne Farrar Houel
Treasurer	Sandra Hassan
Secretary	Carrie L. Gallagher

Each nominee accepted her nomination. The vote will take place at the June Commission Meeting. The Chair will accept any additional nominations from the floor at that time.

### **LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Natasha Pierre, Associate Legislative Analyst gave a very brief update the several legislative bills that we have been monitoring.

Ms. Pierre reported that the Trafficking bill was moving fine. She mentioned that several universal health bills were also coming along, as well as the domestic violence against women bill.

Commissioner Storey reported on the domestic violence bill and that it was an agreement that also included language around "strangulation".

Ms. Younger asked that Ms. Pierre please provide an explanation of the Commission's designation of "A & B legislative bills" for our new Commissioners, which Ms. Pierre did.

Ms. Pierre reported that the Appropriations Committee put their budget out in early April, only two things weren't funded, almost everything that needed money is still in the budget. There was money designated for Breast Cancer, Job

Training & Trafficking. Ms. Pierre wanted the Commissioners to understand that this wasn't the agency budget, but did mention that everything that was requested in the beginning for the agency budget was still in the budget. At this time none of the legislative agencies were touch, but they've also added the Asian Commission.

Ms. Younger reported that she has met with the other legislative commissions and they all had a Financial Policies and Procedures meeting with the Office of Legislative Management.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Commissioner Appointments**

Ms. Younger reported that she met with all the appointing authorities and that current commission terms will be expiring June 30<sup>th</sup> for Commissioners Hassan, Gallagher and Meck.

Commissioner Meck reported that she had sent a letter over to the President Pro Tempore, Sen. Williams seeking her reappointment.

Ms. Younger recommended that the others do the same with their appointment.

### **Board Retreat Priorities-June 21, 2007 from noon to 4 PM; Lyceum**

Ms. Younger reported that the Board Retreat will be held on Thursday, June 21, 2007 at The Lyceum, 227 Lawrence Street, in Hartford.

The commissioners requested that the following be addressed at to be discussed for the board retreat:

- Role clarification (commissioners role & staff role)
- More high participation
- Develop a vision how we (PCSW) would like it to be and what should be done.
- The role of PCSW and the perception
- Reviewing committee structure
- Is there an opportunity for non-commissioners for an Ad-Hoc committee (might be a by-law change).
- Should the CDAC meetings be revisited?
- Signature programs that will be put into place.

Ms. Younger suggested that everyone please continue to think and if they had anything else that they wanted to see addressed at the board retreat to please email her with the information.

## NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Gallagher suggested that they have their June Commission Meeting prior to their board retreat on June 21<sup>st</sup> at 11:30 am. At this meeting they will have their election of officers and budget review.

Commissioner Gallagher announced that on May 18<sup>th</sup> the Women's Center of Danbury will having an event to support the women's center at a cost of \$75.

Commissioner DeBaptiste announced that also on May 18<sup>th</sup> the Southwestern Girl Scouts Council will be having their Achievement Leadership Breakfast Award at the Hyatt Regency in Greenwich.

Commissioner DeBaptiste invited any commissioner to stay for the PI/Talent Bank Committee Meeting immediately following the commission meeting today.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 pm.

**The next meeting of the PCSW will be held on Thursday, June 21, 2007 at 11:30 A.M. at The Lyceum Resource and Conference Center, 227 Lawrence Street, Hartford, CT, Followed by their Board Retreat and then the Making Women Visible Dinner at 5 P.M. at the State Armory.**

Carrie Gallagher  
Secretary

Rosemary Lopez  
Date Approved